



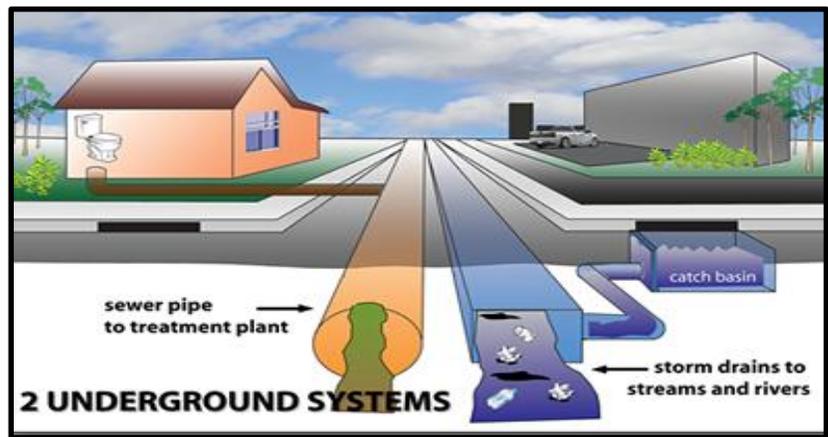
Fort Leonard Wood's Municipal Stormwater Program



Stormwater is water from rain or melting snow and ice. It is an important source of drinking and recreational water. Stormwater soaks into the soil where it can be absorbed by plants, pools on the surface and evaporates, or runs off across the land into streams, rivers, lakes, and other water bodies. In urban and other developed environments, unmanaged stormwater can cause flooding and carry pollutants such as oil, dirt, lawn fertilizers, and other chemicals directly to streams and rivers.

Stormwater from Fort Leonard Wood contributes to two major waterways: The Big Piney River and the Roubidoux Creek. The Big Piney River is a pristine river that provides 98% of Fort Leonard Wood's drinking water as well as many recreational activities. The Big Piney is home to two endangered species, the Spectacle Case Mussel and the Hellbender Salamander. The Roubidoux Creek is a scenic tributary of the Gasconade River. Stormwater from Fort Leonard Wood contributes to historic Roubidoux Spring where the creek supports trout and other wildlife that require a clean cold water source.

In order to maintain the excellent water quality of these rivers, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) has issued a series of permits to Fort Leonard Wood. The primary permit is called the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit which regulates discharges to the storm drain system on the cantonment.



The storm drain system, unlike a sanitary sewer system, transports stormwater to rivers and lakes without treatment or filtration. The MS4 Permit requires that nothing but clean water enters the MS4.

Pollutants can harm fish and wildlife populations, kill native vegetation, foul drinking water supplies, and make recreational areas unsafe and unpleasant. Simple pollution prevention and good housekeeping techniques can minimize water pollution and protect our water resources. Here are just a few:

- Use fertilizers sparingly.
- Limit pesticide use with means such as traps and controlling food sources.
- Sweep driveways, sidewalks and roads instead of using a hose.
- Pick up after pets.
- Use, store, and dispose of chemicals properly.
- Check cars for leaks and recycle motor oil and antifreeze.
- Use car wash facilities that do not generate runoff.

Such practices help meet the goal of reducing pollutants to the storm sewer system to the maximum extent practical. At Fort Leonard Wood, protecting water quality is everyone's job.